Using the TAGG and Zarrow Center Lesson Packages to Assess and Teach Critical Non-Academic Skills to Improve Likelihood of Improved Post-High School Education and **Employment Outcomes**

Presented by Jim Martin, Amber McConnell, and Tracy Sinclair at the 2017 DCDT International Conference in Milwaukee, WI

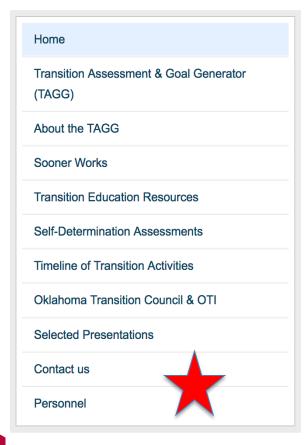


Agenda

- 1. TAGG Overview
 - TAGG Items and Results Profile
 - TAGG Development and Validity Evidence
- Lesson Packages Available for the Zarrow Center Website to Teach TAGG Identified Needs
 - Me! Lessons for Teaching Self-Awareness & Self-Advocacy
 - Take Action: Making Goals Happen
 - Choosing Employment Goals
 - The Self-Directed IEP

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 - zarrowcenter.ou.edu
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- Open Selected Presentations
- Look for 2017 DCDT Milwaukee, WI
- Click on Title of this Presentation



Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment

Mission

The Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment facilitates successful secondary and postsecondary educational, vocational and personal outcomes for students and adults with disabilities. ZC faculty, staff, and students do this through self-determination oriented evaluation, research, development, transition education instruction, and dissemination of best educational and support practices. The ZC also prepares undergraduate and graduate students to assume leadership roles in schools, universities, and support organizations.

Vision

The Zarrow Center facilitates student-directed educational, employment and adult living outcomes for individuals with disabilities, fosters innovative self-determination oriented instruction and transition education practices, and prepares educational leaders.

History

Generous gifts from the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation and the Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation, which the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education matched, endowed the Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment. In the fall semester of 2000, Dr. James Martin became the first Zarrow Chair and serves as the Zarrow Center Director. OU President David Boren gave the Zarrow Center dedication address on May 1, 2001.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ANNUAL REPORTS

University of Oklahoma

₹ 2018

THANKS TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEARCH

Support from IES' National Center for Special Education Research and OU Zarrow Center Made Developing the TAGG Possible

TAGG.OU.EDU/TAGG



Return to Zarrow Center

TAGG Home

Learn About the TAGG

View the Technical Manual

Obtain the TAGG

Loa in

Transition Assessment and Goal Generator



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The TAGG is a new on-line transition assessment for secondary-aged youth with disabilities, their families, and professionals. TAGG items derive from research identified student behaviors associated with post high school employment and education. The TAGG provides a normbased graphic profile, present level of performance statement, lists of strengths and needs, and suggested IEP annual transition goals. Numerous studies demonstrated that the TAGG produces valid and reliable results. A grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education's National Center for Special Education Research supported TAGG development.

Download Family Cover Letter (PDF)
Download Teaching Skills (PPT)
Resources - Teach TAGG Constructs (PDF)

Learn About the TAGG

Create TAGG Account

Log In



Purpose

- Assess non-academic skills associated with and predictive of post-school further education and employment
- To provide IEP team student strengths, needs, a written summary, and annual transition goals to facilitate writing Indicator-13 compliant IEPs

Who?

- TAGG Designed to Assess
 - Secondary-aged students with IEPs who plan to be competitively employed and/or enrolled in further education after graduation
- Each TAGG set includes 3 versions
 - Student
 - Family
 - Professional

TAGG Web-Generated Results Profile

- Graphic results by constructs
- Written summary
- Relative and greatest strengths
- Relative and greatest needs
- Annual transition goals
- Components may be copied and pasted into IEP

Strengths and Limitations

Students express personal areas of mastery and limited ability. The student may not use correct terminology but is able to describe strengths and non-disability related limitations, and how the strengths and limitations affect him or her. The student identifies situations in which successes and failures may occur. Successful students are able to describe personal strengths and limitations, but may not use correct terminology.

1. The student told someone what he or she does well.



2. The student told someone what he or she has trouble doing.



Disability Awareness

Individuals know they have a disability and can express needs to others in a non-stigmatizing manner. Individuals demonstrate knowledge of the disability and can express positive and negative aspects. They express information such as how the disability affects life and what supports are needed and legally allowed to compensate in various situations. The student needs to be able to place the disability within the context of his or her life and is not defined by the disability.

5. The student uses the least stigmatizing disability label that results in getting most support.



6. The student expressed the type of supports or accommodations needed for his or her disability.



Goal Setting and Attainment

Goal-oriented students have set and attained goals in the past and can plan to set and attain goals now and in the future. Students who are successful reaching postsecondary goals define realistic goals that match interests and skills. They are able to break long-term goals into manageable steps, continuously monitor their progress, problem-solve by using supports, and adjust goals as needed based upon feedback. Goal-oriented students tend to prioritize and complete smaller goals or steps in a logical order to achieve a larger goal.

17. The student set goals that match his or her strengths and interests while taking into consideration what the family or community wants him or her to do.

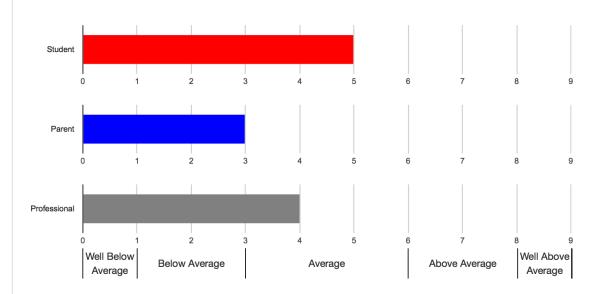


18. The student creates short-term goals to attain long-term goals.

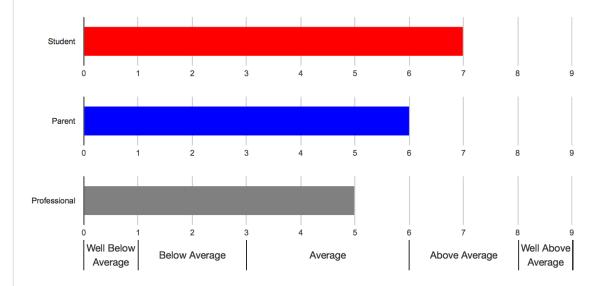


Combined

Strengths and Limitations



Disability Awareness



Combined Score

- The overall score is a weighted combination of all items.
- The overall score is not an average of all the construct scores.

Summary Statement for IEP

Chad Bailey's skills were assessed using the TAGG, a norm-referenced assessment with research-based items known to be associated with post-school employment and education. Compared to similar students, Chad's scores are average. Results indicate greatest strengths are in the areas of Goal Setting and Attainment. Chad's relative strengths include Disability Awareness and Student Involvement in the IEP. Greatest needs are in the area of Strengths and Limitations, with Employment being a relative need.

Area of Greatest Strength

Areas of greatest strengths represent constructs with the highest scaled scores.

Student

Disability Awareness

Family

Employment

Professional

Student Involvement in the IEP

Areas of Relative Strength

Areas of relative strengths represent constructs with comparatively high scores.

Student

Student Involvement in the IEP

Employment

Support Community

Family

Goal Setting and Attainment

Disability Awareness

Interacting With Others

Professional

Goal Setting and Attainment

Persistence

Disability Awareness

Area of Greatest Need

Areas of greatest need represent constructs with the lowest scaled scores.

Student

Goal Setting and Attainment

Family

Strengths and Limitations

Professional

Employment

Areas of Relative Need

Areas of relative need represent constructs with comparatively low scores.

Student

Interacting With Others

Persistence

Strengths and Limitations

Family

Persistence

Support Community

Student Involvement in the IEP

Professional

Support Community

Strengths and Limitations

Interacting With Others

Transition Goals

Postsecondary Goals set the direction

 Annual Transition Goals teach students essential skills needed to obtain postsecondary goals

- Postsecondary goals often change
- Create annual transition goals using generalizable non-academic behaviors
 - Behaviors useful for any postsecondary goal



Strengths and Limitations (Based on Family Responses)

The student will identify, in a mock interview, three tasks he or she has trouble doing and what would help to complete the tasks with 100% accuracy.

In a class presentation, the student will demonstrate three strategies he or she has used to compensate for limitations, scoring at least a 90% on the teacher-made presentation rubric.

Goal Setting and Attainment (Based on Student Responses)

After the student completes one transition goal, he or she will report progress to the IEP team and offer suggestions for the next transition goal at the next IEP meeting with 100% accuracy.

At the IEP meeting, the student will recall at least one transition goal and describe how the goal will help to meet his or her postsecondary goal with 90% accuracy as measured by a teacher-made rubric.

Employment (Based on Professional Responses)

The student will report to the class three unpaid jobs that he or she completed for family members and identify how two or more skills learned can be applied to a paid job with 100% accuracy as measured by a teacher-made rubric.

After completing two internships, the student will present to the class three or more of his or her job preference likes and dislikes with 100% accuracy as measured by a teacher-made rubric.

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Suggested Annual Transition Goals

To prepare for success in employment, the student will write an essay describing three situations where the student used his or her strengths with 90% grammar and context accuracy by the end of the essay writing unit.

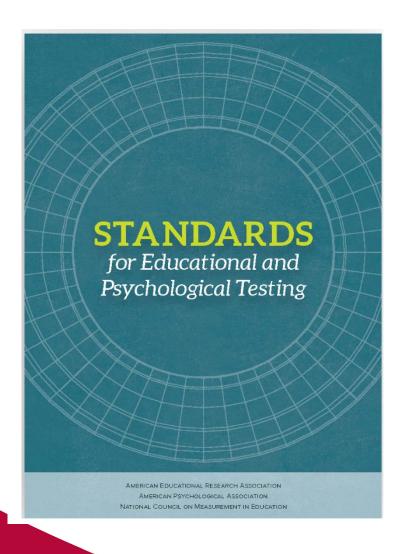
Versions and Format

- Online written English, Spanish, Traditional Chinese
 & Simplified Chinese
 - May be printed and taken by hand, but item responses must be entered into website to produce results profile
- Users may choose to listen to audio (English & Spanish) or watch ASL videos for TAGG instructions and items

Reading Level

- Professional 10.4 grade level
- Family 5.7 grade level
- Student 4.8 grade level

TAGG DEVELOPMENT



- Standards for Educational and Psychological Assessment
- Guided TAGG
 Development

Basic Validity and Reliability Questions

- What is the purpose?
- For whom was it designed?
- How were the items developed?
- Does ample evidence exist in the areas of
 - factor structure
 - Internal reliability
 - Test-retest reliability
 - No or minimal bias by gender, placement, GPA, grade, disability category, SES
 - Predictive validity



Identifying Nonacademic Behaviors Associated With Post-School Employment and Education

Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals XX(X) 1–14 © 2012 Hammill Institute on Disabilities Reprints and permission: sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav DOI: 10.1177/2165143412468147 http://cdtei@sagepub.com



Amber E. McConnell, PhD¹, James E. Martin, PhD¹, Chen Ya Juan, PhD², Maeghan N. Hennessey, PhD¹, Robert A. Terry, PhD¹, Nidal A. el-Kazimi, PhD³, Tammy C. Pannells, PhD⁴, and Donna M. Willis, BA¹

Abstract

We conducted an analysis of the secondary transition qualitative and quantitative research literature to build comprehensive constructs and lists of student nonacademic behaviors associated with post-high school employment and education. From a pool of 83 initial quantitative and qualitative studies, 35 met the inclusion criteria, and the analysis of these yielded 10 constructs of student nonacademic behaviors associated with post-school education and employment for high school students with mild to moderate disabilities. The constructs are presented along with lists of representative behaviors, implications for their use are discussed, and the next steps in building a new transition assessment using these constructs and behaviors are described.



Factor Structure and Basic Psychometric Properties of the Transition Assessment and Goal Generator

Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals I-12

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Maeghan N. Hennessey, PhD¹, Robert Terry, PhD¹, James E. Martin, PhD¹, Amber E. McConnell, PhD¹, and Donna M. Willis, BS¹

Abstract

We examined the theoretical factor structure fit and psychometric properties of the *Transition Assessment and Goal Generator* (TAGG). In the first study, 349 transition-aged students with disabilities, their special educators, and family members completed TAGG assessments, and using exploratory factor analysis (EFA)/confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), a simple eight-factor structure emerged. In 2 subsequent years, independent samples of students with disabilities (Study II, N = 257; Study III, N = 846), their special educators, and family members completed the TAGG, and the TAGG structure replicated in both years across all versions using CFAs. The results provide evidence of construct validity and reliability. We discuss implications of the results and identify future research needs.

Indicators of Postsecondary Employment and Education for Youth With Disabilities in Relation to GPA and General Education

Remedial and Special Education 2015, Vol. 36(6) 327–336 © Hammill Institute on Disabilities 2015 Reprints and permissions: sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav DOI: 10.1177/0741932515583497 rase.sagepub.com



Amber E. McConnell, PhD¹, James E. Martin, PhD¹, and Maeghan N. Hennessey, PhD¹

Abstract

employment measured by the Transition Assessment and Goal Generator (TAGG), student grade point average (GPA), and percentage of time students with disabilities received instruction in the general education classroom. Participants included 1,219 individuals from 49 school districts, across nine states. Analysis of Pearson product—moment correlation coefficients indicated weak to no relations among variables with the exception of persistence and core GPA. Neither

This study examined the relations among research-identified non-academic indicators of post-school education and

student GPA nor time in the general education setting accounted for meaningful variance in TAGG scores, suggesting the TAGG measures behaviors different from GPA and educational placement. Only scores provided by educators yielded a moderate correlation between core GPA and the construct of persistence. Implications for practice and future research needed are discussed.

The Influence of Gender on Non-Academic Skills Associated With Post-School Employment and Further Education

Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals I–10

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SSAGE

Amber E. McConnell, PhD¹, James E. Martin, PhD¹, Jason P. Herron, PhD¹, and Maeghan N. Hennessey, PhD¹

Abstract

Gender differences have been found in post-school outcomes of students with disabilities, yet these differences are rarely examined. To determine whether male and female high school students with disabilities scored differently in non-academic behaviors known to affect post-school education and employment measured by the Transition Assessment and Goal Generator, we analyzed scores provided by 1,537 high school students with disabilities, 836 family members, and 139 professionals from 30 states. Findings revealed no difference in full-scale scores on Professional or Student versions based on gender of the student. Family members' overall scores for females were significantly higher, yet the difference was slight. Some differences were found at the construct level on all three versions. Construct differences and implications are discussed.

Predicting Postsecondary Education and Employment Outcomes Using Results From the Transition Assessment and Goal Generator

Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals I–II
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DOI: 10.1177/2165143417705353

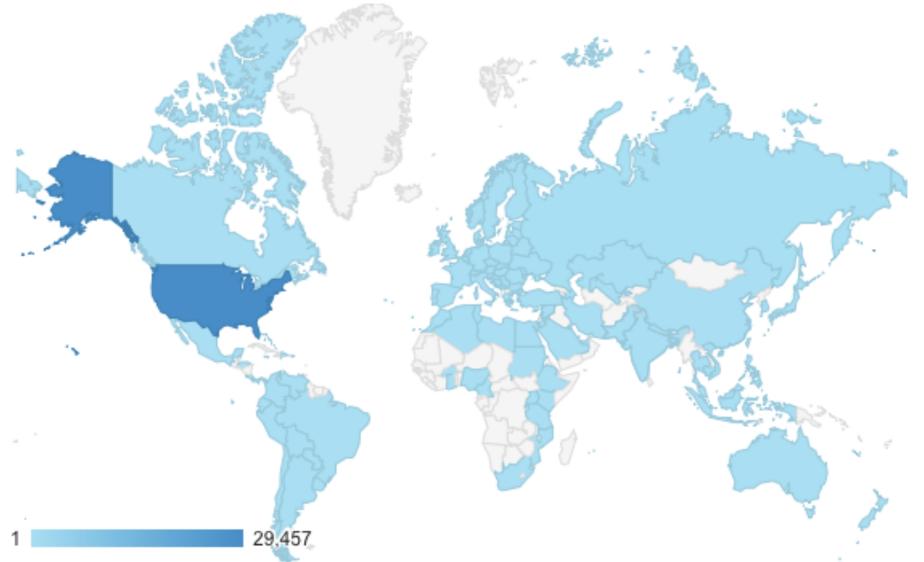
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Jennifer J. Burnes, PhD^{1,2}, James E. Martin, PhD¹, Robert Terry, PhD¹, Amber E. McConnell, PhD¹, and Maeghan N. Hennessey, PhD¹

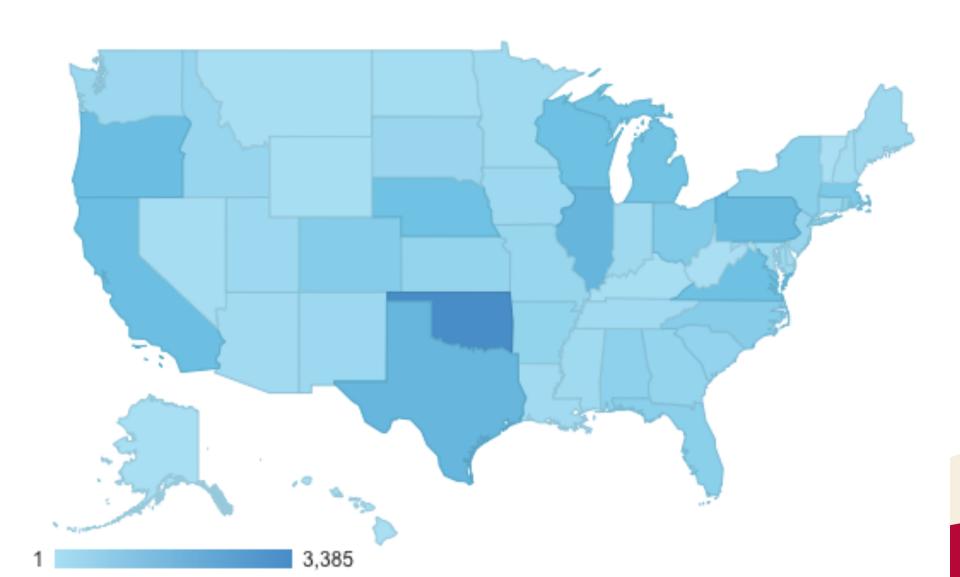
Abstract

We conducted an exploratory study to investigate the relation between nonacademic behavior constructs measured by the *Transition Assessment and Goal Generator* (TAGG) and postsecondary education and employment outcomes for 297 high school leavers who completed the TAGG during their high school years. Four of eight TAGG constructs predicted postsecondary educational outcomes: (a) Interacting With Others, (b) Student Involvement in the Individualized Education Program (IEP), (c) Support Community, and (d) Goal Setting and Attainment. Four constructs predicted postsecondary employment outcomes: (a) Employment, (b) Student Involvement in the IEP, (c) Support Community, and (d) Interacting With Others. The addition of student grade point average (GPA) strengthened some of the models. The findings appear to add predictive validity evidence to support use of TAGG results to assist with transition planning.

Use of TAGG Website From Around the World



Use of TAGG Website Across US



TAGG

TECHNICAL MANUAL

Available at NO Cost at the TAGG website



Predictive Validity Process

- Follow-up of 297 former high school students who completed the TAGG while in high school
 - One to Two Years After High School
- Logistic regressions examined relations between TAGG non-academic behavior constructs and postsecondary education and employment

Constructs Predicting Further Education

- Student Involvement in the IEP
- Interacting with Others
- Support Community
- Goal Setting and Attainment

Constructs Predicting Employment

- Student Involvement in IEP
- Interacting with Others
- Support Community
- Employment

TAGG Details

- \$3 per set (Professional, Student, Family versions)
 - Used to pay for on-going TAGG development and operational costs
- TAGG profiles saved for 7 years
- Data kept on high-speed secure cloud servers
- Purchased credits may be transferred to other registered
 TAGG users
- Unused credits do not expire; can be refunded up to one year after purchase

TAGG Web Site Location

The OU Zarrow Center's Web Page http://zarrowcenter.ou.edu/

The TAGG Web Page

https://tagg.ou.edu/tagg

Teaching TAGG Skills

Lesson Packages to Teach

- Strengths and Limitations
- Disability Awareness
- Interacting with Others



Lessons for Teaching Self-Awareness & Self-Advocacy

ME! Units

Getting Started

- Understanding Self-awareness & Self-advocacy
- Understanding What Its All About

Learning About Special Education

- Learning About the History of Disability
- Learning About Special Education: How & why did I get here?
- Creating My History

Understanding My Individualized Education Program

- Getting to Know My IEP
- Still Getting to Know My IEP

Understanding My Rights and Responsibilities

- Learning About My Rights & Responsibilities in High School
- Learning About My Rights & Responsibilities After High School
- Where do I go from Here?

Improving My Communication Skills

- Learning How to Communicate Effectively
- Knowing What to Share and Who to Share It With



Increasing My Self-Awareness

- Starting My Self-Awareness Project
- Completing My Self-Awareness Project
- Presenting My Self-Awareness Project

Advocating For My Needs in High School

- Planning How to Advocate
- Learning From Experience



Advocating For My Needs After High School

- Using My New Skills on the Job
- Using My New Skills at Postsecondary School
- Reporting My Findings

Developing My Resources

Completing My Summary of Performance and Goals

Assessing My Progress & Portfolio

- Assessing My Progress
- Assessing My Portfolio





ME! Details

- Time to Teach
 - Approximately 20 hours
 - 23 sessions taking 45-60 minutes each
- Where to Teach
 - Resource English, Social Studies, Transition class or Study Skills class
- Cost
 - FREE download at http://zarrowcenter.ou.edu/





Bell-Ringer Details

- Time to Teach
 - 5-10 minutes once a week at the beginning of the class
 - Skills:
 - self-awareness
 - disability awareness
 - goal setting
 - knowledge to lead an IEP
 - financial literacy
- Categories 150 Transition Bell Ringers Total
 - 50 Functional Transition
 - 50 Secondary Transition
 - 50 Secondary Financial Literacy



Lesson Packages to Teach

- Persistence
- Goal Setting and Attainment
- Support Community

Take Action

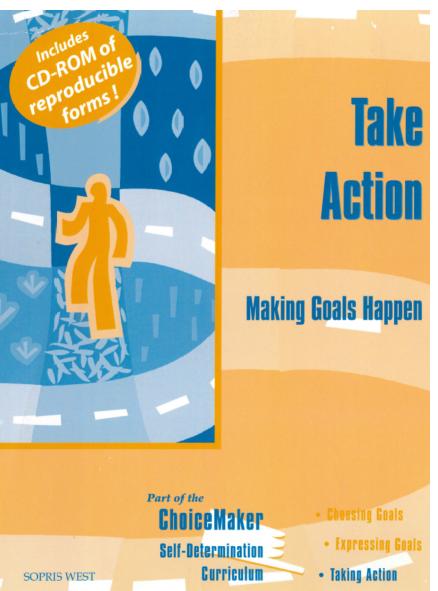


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(Modified Version)

213. . . . Lesson 4M: Evaluate and Adjust Plans (Modified Version)

Take Action Major Steps: Plan

- Establish standards
- Determine how to get feedback
- Identify motivation to attain goal
- Select strategies, support and schedule

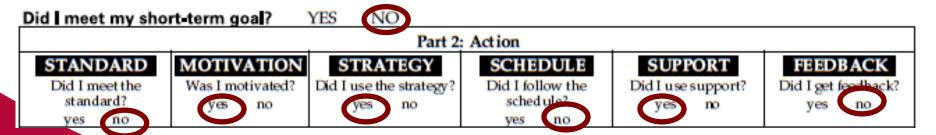
Long-Term Goal <u>Get my driver's license</u>
Short-Term Goal <u>Learn to drive</u>

		Part 1: Stu	ident Plan		
STANDARD What will I be satisfied with?	MOTIVATION Why do I want to do this?	STRATEGY What methods should I use?	SCHEDULE When will I do this?	SUPPORT What help do I need?	FEEDBACK How will I get information on my performance?
Get her drivers license by the time school starts	To be able to drive herself places not not be picked up by her mother and brothers	Practice driving	4:00-5:00 Wednesday and Thursday	A friend who can drive	What her passenger says about her driving

Take Action Major Steps: Action

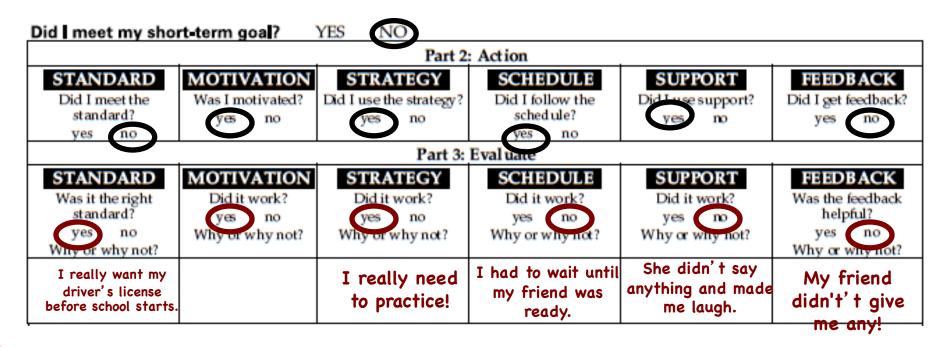
Check each plan part for action

		Part 1: Stu	ıdent Plan		
STANDARD What will I be satisfied with?	MOTIVATION Why do I want to do this?	STRATEGY What methods should I use?	SCHEDULE When will I do this?	SUPPORT What help do I need?	FEEDBACK How will I get information on my performance?
Get her drivers license by the time school starts	To be able to drive herself places not not be picked up by her mother and brothers	Practice driving	4:00-5:00 Wednesday and Thursday	A friend who can drive	What her passenger says about her driving



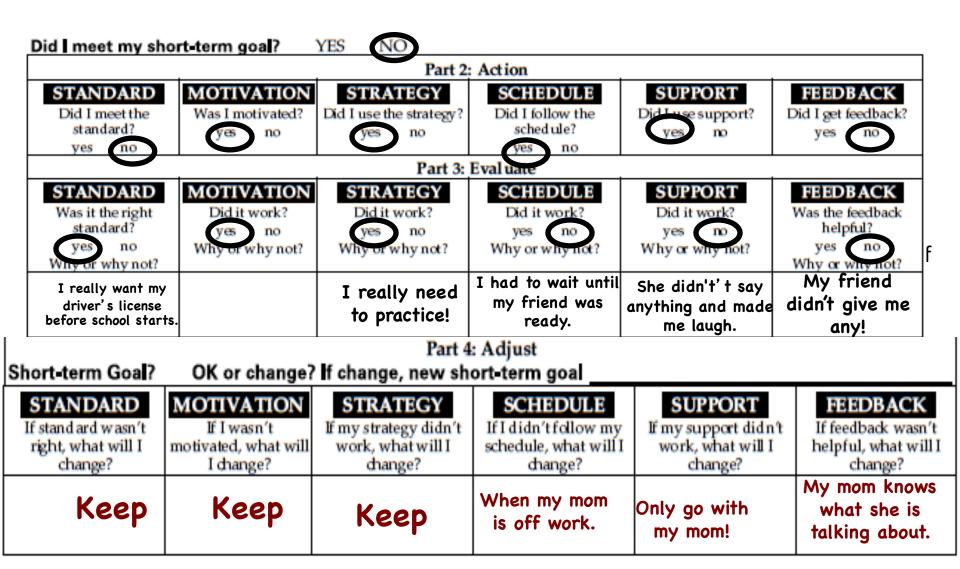
Take Action Major Steps: Evaluate

Understand why action was or was not taken



Take Action Major Steps: Adjust

Propose changes to actions that did not work



Take Action Major Steps: Adjust

Adopt suggested plan adjustments

Part 4: Adjust Short-term Goal? OK or change? If change, new short-term goal					
STANDARD If stand ard w asn't right, what will I change?	MOTIVATION If I wasn't motivated, what will I change?	If my strategy didn't	If I didn't follow my schedule, what will I change?	SUPPORT If my support didn't work, what will I change?	IF feedback wasn't helpful, what will I change?
Keep	Кеер	Keep	When my mom is off work.	Only go with my mom!	My mom knows what she is talking about.

STANDARD What will I be satisfied with?	MOTIVATION Why do I want to do this?	STRATEGY What methods should I use?	SCHEDULE When will I do this?	SUPPORT What help do I need?	FEEDBACK How will I get information on my performance?
Get her drivers license by the time school starts	To be able to drive herself places not not be picked up by her mother and brothers	Practice driving	Mom's day off, Saturday @ 4:00	Mom and only mom!	What mom tells me.



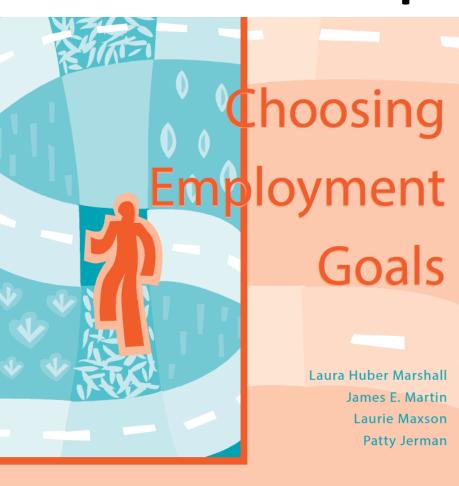
Revisions to Take Action

Addition of Reminder

my Short-reith Goal.			
	*	Plan∗	
Standard What will I be happy with?			
Strategy	Schedule	Support	Feedback
How am I going to do it?	When am I going to do it?	What help do I need from people?	How will I know how I did?
	Reminder How will I remember?	What things will help me?	

My Short-Torm Goal:

Employment



Self-Determination

Curriculum

ChoiceMaker Choosing Goals

· Expressing Goals

Taking Action

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- 103 Lesson 11: Work, Social, and Personal Skills Student Worksheet and Supervisor Evaluation
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- 129 Lesson 15: Site Summary
- 135 Lesson 16: Job Clusters
- 139 Lesson 17: Dream Job Research
- 145 Lesson 18: Dream Job Informational Interview
- 151 Lesson 19: Dream Job Shadowing

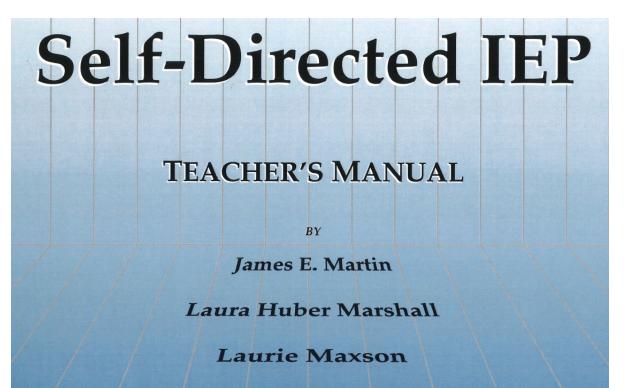
Job Characteristics I Like Worksheet

Name		Date	_ Site	<u>.</u>
	Circle the job characteristic or characteristics you like best. What I Like	Circle the job characteristic or characteristics that best describe what is at this job. What Is Here	Circle YES i circled in th columns is Circle NO	the same. if it is not.
1.	work alone lots of people around	work alone lots of people around	YES	NO
2.	quiet workplace noisy workplace	quiet workplace noisy workplace	YES	NO
3.	weekdays only weekends too	weekdays only weekends too	YES	NO
4.	easy job challenging job	easy job challenging job	YES	NO
5.	dress up for work do not dress up wear uniform	dress up for work do not dress up wear uniform	YES	NO
6.	standing up sitting down moving around	standing up sitting down moving around	YES	NO





Student Involvement in the IEP



Patty Jerman



Self-Directed IEP Steps

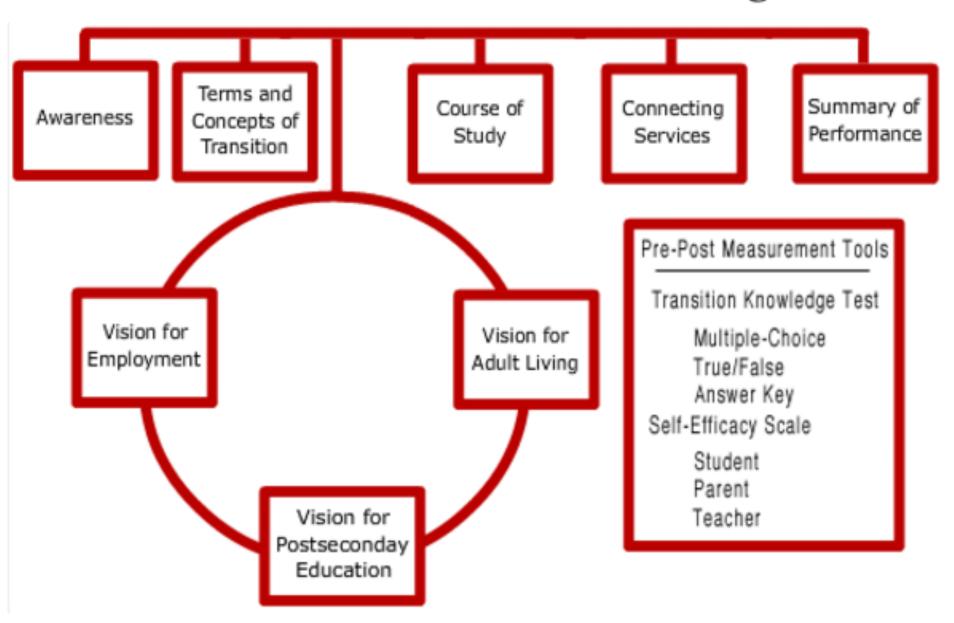
- State Purpose of Meeting
- Introduce Team
- Review Past Goals
- Ask for Feedback
- State School and Transition Goals
- Ask Question If Don't Understand

- Deal with Differences in Opinion
- State Support Needs
- Summarize Goals
- Close Meeting
- Work on Goals All Year

Begin Meeting by Stating	the Purpose*	
The purpose of this staffing is to		
1		
2		
Introduce Everyone*		
	, my	
This is	, my	
'		
This is	, my	
I invited him/her because		

STUDENT-DIRECTED TRANSITION PLANNING LESSONS

Student-Directed Transition Planning



Student-Directed Transition Planning

Awareness of Self, Family, Community, and Disability

Lesson Activities

- Define Disability (doc)
- Disability Awareness Circle (doc)
- What's Important to me? (doc)
- Self-Awareness Survey (doc)



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Teaching Materials



- Awareness Lesson Presentation (ppt)
- Awareness Teacher's Guide (doc)

Find These Lessons and More at

FREE – download at

http://zarrowcenter.ou.edu/

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